

## Message Text

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S/S : MR. BARNES

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 197357

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TOPOL 9

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR,IC

SUBJECT: MEETING OF ICELANDIC DELEGATION AT DEFENSE DEPT,  
OCT. 3

AGUSTSSON'S TALK WITH SECRETARY SCHLESINGER.

2. QUOTE: FOREIGN MINISTER AGUSTSSON ALONG WITH  
AMBASSADOR KROYER AND HANS ANDERSEN MET WITH SECRETARY  
SCHLESINGER FOR A HALF-HOUR THIS MORNING. AGUSTSSON READ  
A STATEMENT OF OPTIONS THE GOVERNMENT FACES WITH REGARD  
TO THE BASE: (1) MAINTAIN THE STATUS QUO (WHICH  
AGUSTSSON SAID WAS NOT ACCEPTABLE); (2) COMPLETE  
WITHDRAWAL OF THE BASE; AND (3) SOME ARRANGEMENTS WHEREBY  
ICELANDERS CAN TAKE OVER SEVERAL FUNCTIONS OF THE BASE  
(I.E., THE "ICELANDIZATION" PROPOSAL).

SECRETARY SCHLESINGER REMARKED THAT THE APPROACH OF  
THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TOWARD THE PENDING NEGOTIATIONS IS  
ONE OF FLEXIBILITY AND THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER WOULD  
FIND US IN A VERY CONSTRUCTIVE FRAME OF MIND. HE SAID HE  
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WAS CONFIDENT THAT OPTION (3) COULD BE ATTAINED WITHOUT

IMPAIRING THE BASIC FUNCTIONS OF THE BASE. THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE SESSION SECRETARY SCHLESINGER, DEPUTY SECRETARY CLEMENTS, UNDER SECRETARY OF THE NAVY MIDDENDORF, AND AMBASSADOR HILL EMPHASIZED THE FLEXIBLE FRAME OF MIND THEME. THEY ALL COMMENDED YOU HIGHLY AS THE NEGOTIATOR

AND SPOKE OF YOUR INTEGRITY AND FRANKNESS.

AGUSTSSON IN REPLY SAID THAT HE APPRECIATED THE ATTITUDE THAT PREVAILED THIS MORNING AND THAT HE LOOKED FORWARD TO DIRECT, FRANK AND BUSINESSLIKE TALKS WITH YOU.

IN PRIVATE THE FOREIGN MINISTER TOLD ME HOW PLEASED HE WAS TO FIND A FLEXIBLE FRAME OF MIND AT THE PENTAGON, WHICH, HE SAID, WAS THE OPPOSITE OF WHAT CONFRONTED HIM LAST JANUARY. HE ALSO REMARKED THAT HE HOPED THE MEETING WITH YOU TOMORROW WOULD BE KEPT VERY SMALL BECAUSE HE ANTICIPATED TO BE VERY FRANK WITH YOU. I TOLD HIM IT WOULD PROBABLY BE THREE OR FOUR PEOPLE. HE STRESSED THAT HE WOULD PREFER TO HAVE NO MILITARY MEN PRESENT; THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF ICELANDIC OPTICS FOR HIM TO BE ABLE TO SAY THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS ARE COMPLETELY IN THE HANDS OF CIVILIANS AND UNDER THE DIRECT GUIDANCE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE. HE ADDED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO OBJECTIONS, HOWEVER, FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL TO SERVE AS TECHNICAL ADVISORS. HE ALSO REMARKED THAT HE MUST RETURN TO ICELAND WITH SOME CONCESSIONS AND THAT IT IS VERY IMPORTANT WE TALK NUMBERS OF MILITARY REDUCTION TOMORROW EVEN THOUGH WE CAN MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THE NUMBERS ARE ONLY TENTATIVE.

HE ASKED ME WHETHER THE NEXT MEETING COULD TAKE PLACE IN REYKJAVIK AND WHETHER IT COULD TAKE PLACE AS EARLY AS NOVEMBER. I SUGGESTED HE MAKE THAT PROPOSAL TO YOU IN TOMORROW'S SESSION.

AGUSTSSON WOULD LIKE TO CATCH THE 4 O'CLOCK SHUTTLE BACK TO NEW YORK AND WOULD HOPE THAT THE SESSION TOMORROW COULD TERMINATE BY ABOUT 3:30 P.M.

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AGUSTSSON LEFT THE PENTAGON THIS MORNING IN A FINE FRAME OF MIND. HE IS LOOKING FORWARD TO THE SESSION TOMORROW AND FEELS THAT AN ACCOMMODATION ON THE BASE CAN BE REACHED. UNQUOTE. RUSH

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